Claims

1. A method for controlling a media gateway (AGW) via which a
plurality of subscribers (T) and/or trunk lines (V) are brought
5   to at least two media gateway controllers (PE0, PE1)
c h a r a c t e r i z e d   i n   t h a t
registering with the at least two media gateway controllers
(PE0, PE1) simultaneously is carried out by the media gateway
(AGW), as a result of which at least two packet-based signaling
10 connections are established but only one of them is activated
in switching terms, in accordance with a selection criterion,
for the same plurality of subscribers and trunk lines.

2. The method as claimed in claim 1,
15 c h a r a c t e r i z e d   i n   t h a t
each of the media gateway controllers (PE0, PE1) can be
accessed via its own IP address.

3. The method as claimed in claim 1 or 2,
20 c h a r a c t e r i z e d   i n   t h a t
the at least two media gateway controllers (PE0, PE1) are
arranged mutually redundantly.

4. The method as claimed in claim 1, 2 or 3,
25 c h a r a c t e r i z e d   i n   t h a t
the selection criterion of the at least two media gateway
controllers (PE0, PE1) is defined in keeping with configuration
data and/or dynamic status variables.

30 5. The method as claimed in claims 1 to 4,
c h a r a c t e r i z e d   i n   t h a t
registering takes place during power-on of the access gateway
(AGW).

6. The method as claimed in claims 1 to 5,
c h a r a c t e r i z e d   i n   t h a t
a change in the selection criterion is notified to the media
gateway (AGW) through the conveying thereto of messages,
relevant to switching, via the packet-based signaling
connection not activated in switching terms for the same
plurality of subscribers and trunk lines, with this being
interpreted by the media gateway (AGW) as a changeover
criterion.

7. The method as claimed in claims 1 to 5,
c h a r a c t e r i z e d   i n   t h a t
a change in the selection criterion is notified to the media
gateway (AGW) through the conveying thereto of a standard-
compliant message, to be evaluated by the media gateway (AGW)
explicitly as a changeover criterion and exclusively used as
such, via the packet-based signaling connection not activated
in switching terms for the same plurality of subscribers and
trunk lines.

8. The method as claimed in claims 1 to 5,
c h a r a c t e r i z e d   i n   t h a t
the reliability of the linking of the media gateway (AGW) is
increased by exchanging cyclical test messages between the at
least two media gateway controllers (PE0, PE1) and the media
gateway (AGW) and through using corresponding operator
alerting.

9. The method as claimed in one of the preceding claims,
c h a r a c t e r i z e d   i n   t h a t
a load sharing operation is provided by defining the signaling
connection for each port.

10. The method as claimed in one of the preceding claims,

c h a r a c t e r i z e d   i n   t h a t

the at least two media gateway controllers (MGC) are embodied

from the network's viewpoint as being peripheral interface

devices.

5

11. The method as claimed in one of the preceding claims,

c h a r a c t e r i z e d   i n   t h a t

the media gateway is embodied as a trunk gateway with trunk

lines and without subscribers or as an access gateway with

10   subscribers and without trunk lines.